



DC Arts Education

The Key Communicator



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MARY LINIGER, EDITOR

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Supporting the work of Arts Education Professionals in D.C. Public Schools and the community.

“ARTS AND

HUMANITIES ARE
CRITICAL BUILDING
BLOCKS FOR A CHILD’S
DEVELOPMENT AND
PROVIDE

A STRONG FOUNDATION
FOR LEARNING IN THE
CLASSROOM AND
THROUGHOUT LIFE.”

—FIRST LADY LAURA
BUSH

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NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE ARTS

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Government of the
District of Columbia

Anthony A. Williams,
Mayor



Arts Commission Expands Teacher Resources for Fall



The D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities has increased and broadened its support for District teachers this school year. In addition to supporting arts learning partnerships with cultural organizations and schools through the Arts Education Project grant, the Arts Commission now offers the following programs and initiatives:

Teacher Mini Grant Expansion: There will be two deadlines this year for the popular Teacher Mini-Grant program, and the total awards for the 2003-2004 school year have increased to \$40,000. The purpose of the grant is to encourage creative arts education projects in D.C. Public Schools and Public Charter Schools and to support the development and implementation of innovative teaching strategies to support DCPS Arts Content Standards. Curriculum Development projects and Artist Residencies are funded with these grants. **Deadlines: November 13, 2003 and January 15, 2004**

New! Artist Roster: In order to help teachers find qualified artists for school residency programs, the Arts Commission has created an Artist Roster that lists artists by discipline, experience, and background information. All artists on the roster have been peer reviewed for artistic and educational merit, and all have submitted security requirements (Tb screening and MPD background check). Teachers may select artists from the roster and contact them directly to plan mini-grant applications.

The roster will be available in PDF format on the Commission website:

<http://www.dcartarts.dc.gov>.

New! Superintendent’s Award for Arts Teacher of the Year: The Arts Commission, in partnership with D.C. Public Schools, is pleased to announce this new award recognizing outstanding arts educators in our schools. Three awards will be given during the inaugural year (Elementary School Level, Middle School Level, and High School Level), and each will receive a \$500 award for their school arts programs. The awards will be presented at the Mayor’s Arts Awards in January, 2004.

Nomination Deadline: December 5, 2003



Arts Education Funding Opportunities

Funding Opportunities for Organizations: Grant Opportunities for PK-12 Teachers:

1. *The Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation* is the largest independent grant-making foundation focused exclusively on the Washington Metropolitan area. The funding priorities for the Arts and Humanities include Arts Education and Arts Service organizations. Application deadlines for the next funding cycles are November 1, 2003 and March 1, 2004. Learn more about them by visiting their website, www.cafritzfoundation.org, or calling at (202) 223-3100.

2. *Leadership for a Changing World* seeks to recognize, strengthen and support leaders and to highlight the importance of community leadership in improving people's lives. To be considered for the grant, candidates must be nominated by someone who is familiar with his/her work and can express his/her leadership qualities. Nominees can work in the areas of the arts, youth development or social action. Successful applicants will receive an award of \$100,000 over two years to support their endeavors. Nominations for the next funding cycle are due by January 6, 2004. For more information, visit their website www.leadershipforchange.org.

3. *The Tiger Woods Foundation* seeks to help the development of youth by supporting community-based programs that promote the health, education and welfare of children. Approved grant program areas include education and youth development. The Tiger Woods Foundation primarily funds organizations, programs and projects that are based in urban areas. Past arts winners include the Theatre of Hearts, the Worcester Center for Crafts and GRAMMY in the Schools. Application deadlines for the next funding cycle is February 1, 2004. To learn more, visit their website www.twfound.org.

4. *Target Stores' Arts in Education* grants support collaboration between artists and students by sponsoring organizations that bring performers to schools, allow students to see performances or exhibitions, and foster participation in arts workshops. Target Stores award grants that usually range from \$1,000 to \$3,000. Applications are accepted between February and July. To find out more, please visit Target Stores' Arts in Education Grant website www.target.com or visit your local Target location to pick up an application.

1. *Eleanor M. Johnson Award*: International Reading Association is currently offering an award to an outstanding elementary teacher in the field of reading/language arts. The award carries a prize of \$1000. Candidates must be Association members, have a minimum of 5 years' teaching experience, and be endorsed by four individuals. Please visit their website, www.reading.org/awards/awardtea.html, for more information. The deadline for this award is in November, and the website has a downloadable application.

2. *Regie Routman Teacher Recognition Award*: International Reading Association is currently offering an award to an outstanding regular classroom elementary teacher of reading/language arts for reflective writing about his/her teaching and learning process. This award carries a prize of \$1000. The deadline for this award is November 1, 2003. Go to www.reading.org/awards/regierou.html for more information about the award.

3. *Teacher as Researcher Grant*: International Reading Association is currently offering grants to teachers who would like to expand their knowledge in the fields of literacy and instruction. These grants are open to all K-12 teachers and multiple recipients will be honored. The grants can be awarded up to \$5000, but smaller grants of \$1000-\$2000 will have first priority. The application deadline for the grants is January 15, 2004. Go to their website www.reading.org/awards/granttrg.html for more information.

4. *Surdna* is inviting arts teachers from public arts high schools to apply for funding for artistic development. Each fellow is eligible for a maximum of \$5,000 to defray the cost of tuition, materials, travel, and living expenses in conjunction with professional study, advanced workshops or residencies at an artist's colony. An additional \$1,500 will be awarded to each Fellow's school in support of post-fellowship activities with students. Applicants must submit a letter of intent by November 24, 2003. For more information, please email surndafellowships@mindspring.com



Thank You, Fall Interns!

Arts Commission interns Kari Den Otter, Phillip Hummel, and Marissa Hoechstetter contributed research and articles for this issue of the *Key Communicator* newsletter. Kari and Phillip are studying American Politics with American University's Washington Semester program; Marissa is a graduate student in AU's arts management program.

The Arts Commission offers internships in arts management throughout the year. For more information on the Commission's internships programs, please visit our website: <http://dcarts.dc.gov>.

National Newswatch



According to *The 35th Annual Phi Delta Kappa / Gallup Poll Of the Public's Attitude Toward the Public Schools* by Lowell C. Rose and Alec M. Gallup, respondents would be troubled by an increased emphasis on English and mathematics testing if it meant a reduced role for arts education and other subjects. Both public school parents and adults without children participated in the poll:

TABLE 12. How much, if at all, are you concerned that relying on testing for English and math only to judge a school's performance will mean less emphasis on art, music, history and other subjects? Would you say you are concerned a great deal, a fair amount, not much, or not at all?

	National Totals %	No Children in School %	Public School Parents %
A great deal plus a fair amount	80	80	82
A great deal	40	38	45
A fair amount	40	42	37
Not much	14	13	15
Not at all	6	7	3
Don't Know	*	*	*
*Less than one-half of 1%			

The sample of The 35th Annual Phi Delta Kappa / Gallup Poll Of the Public's Attitude Toward the Public Schools was comprised of 1,011 adults above the age of 18. The survey was conducted from May 28th, 2003 to June 18th, 2003. It was released this past September. Reprinted with permission from Phi Delta Kappa / Gallup

The No Child Left Behind Act, which became law in January 2002, requires schools to achieve Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in English and mathematics. Under the law, states must test all students in English and mathematics each year from Grade 3 to Grade 8 and at least once from Grade 10 to Grade 12 by the 2005-2006 school year. Some education experts and policymakers have expressed concern that other subjects, including arts education, will be shortchanged in order to reach AYP in English and mathematics. To view the entire poll or to find more information about it, please visit the Phi Delta Kappa International website at www.pdkintl.org.

Take a Mini Party Animal Home!

Party Animals Project Helps Support Arts Education Programs

One of the Arts Commission's most successful arts projects was last summer's Party Animals. You may recall seeing these elephants and donkeys around the city last summer drawing the attentions of District residents and tourists alike. However, you may not know that the sale of these animals has provided funding for education programs like the Teacher

Mini-Grants, Arts Education Projects, and the Artist Roster. And now you can own your own Party Animal! Miniature Party Animals will soon be available in Washington DC gift shops on-line at www.touristart.com or you can call Touristart.com at (301) 330-8080. For more information on Party Animals please go to www.partyanimalsdc.org, and remember to look for another exciting Public Arts project for the summer of 2004.



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